1843
Divine
Word

PAPERS
OF
SHAKERS

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~~OHIO~~
~~Union Village~~
N. Y.
New Lebanon

The Word of the Lord God, to the Anointed Ones.

Written by Inspiration,

Second Family, Wisdom's Valley – April 25th 1843.

Concerning the Word which hath already come forth in my Name, which I have purposed to have circulate through the earth, if so be this Word go forth from my holy Mountain, I the Lord have purposed in my Wisdom, if it be thought consistent by mine Anointed, to have the Elders of the family wherein this my holy Eternal Word was given, or any one of the Elders in behalf of the whole, should state their feelings concerning this my holy and Eternal Word; and also state their confidence in the instrument of my choice, and also of her deportment during the writing of this my Word.

If ye consider she has walked blameless in your presence, and ye have reason to believe that she was governed by the Spirit of God, according to the requirements of the gospel, and also as an inspired instrument who was called to write the words of the Most High; then say I your Heavenly Father state your feelings in this respect as an evidence in favor of this my holy and Eternal Word.

I ask not that ye should seek to build up the instrument in her own eyes, neither in the eyes of the world of mankind, but that ye should seek to build up my holy and Eternal Word; for a corrupt tree cannot

bring forth good fruit, neither can any one being influenced by the power of evil, bring forth that Testimony which is able to cast out all that is of the power of evil in every soul that receiveth it and walketh in obedience thereunto.

And for this cause, saith the Lord, I do require that ye as Watchmen give your firm testimony in this respect, lest they say that this my holy and Eternal Word was brought forth by one who had a devil, and through the influence of the same spirit had framed and devised these as cunning fables to deceive if possible the very elect.

Knowing, saith the Lord, that the time will come, that all manner of evil will be spoken falsely against my Word and against those whom I have chosen to be the bearers of the same to a lost and ungoverned world, who stand in direct enmity to their Maker and to all that is of his right hand planting.

Therefore I do require that the Elders of the said Family who preside at the time of the writing of this my holy and Eternal Word should state their confidence in the same, and also of the deportment of the instrument.

Then I do require all who have come to lawful age to give in their evidence, as Witness as for me their Heavenly Father, should sign their names to the above statement;

But saith the Lord I forbid any one signing their names unless they feel it their privilege so to do, and do it of their own voluntary, free

choice, and are willing to defend the same Testimony before all men.

Yea, saith the Lord, I forbid any one to place or cause their names to be placed to this sacred Book as Witnesses for me, who have not full confidence in the same, and are willing to suffer all things to support it; nay let no names be placed who, when called in question, will speak in the following manner.

"I to be sure did place my name, knowing that I should be lightly esteemed, and considered a poor believer by my Elders, Brethren & Sisters, if I acted otherwise; so out of fear to them I placed my name, not that I even at the time had any confidence in the Word, or in the messenger of the word."

Thus saith the Lord, If ye scruple why I the Lord am thus special in this thing, consider, that he who is able to foresee and comprehend that which is to come, is he who requireth this of every one of you as before mentioned; and he who in defiance of my word do place their names as witnesses, and also as defenders of my holy and Eternal Word, and afterwards prove treacherous to the same, shall receive in time to come the reward of the traitor, who is loathsome in my sight.

And thus, saith the Lord, have I communicated my mind upon this subject in due season, that the mouth of the enemy may in some measure be stopt in this respect, which will be opened wide to destroy if possible by the tongue of slander, the force of this my holy & Eternal Word.

Yea some who bear the marks of the beast will criticise in this way,

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Surely the mouth of the Lord has never uttered forth these things, but by a disordered brain have they been framed and put together." Others will say it hath all been performed by the power of witchcraft; while others will say surely there can no good thing come from such a source; for I have been informed that the writer of the above work entitled the Word of God and the like was written by one of profane character and of loose morals, therefore I have no grounds to believe that the word is of God or framed in his Spirit.

And, saith the Lord, for this cause, that numerous slanders will arise to persecute my Word and also the Instrument of my choice have I made this request; that when those who have been eye and ear witnesses to the present outpouring of my Spirit among my people are called home, their names may be left with a strong testimony as a defence to my holy and Eternal work.

And who among you is willing to withhold this? Yet I ask not the voice of the fearful and unbelieving; for I have no pleasure in them, saith the Lord.

And thus ends my Word and my request in the name of

The Holy One of Israel.